GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4198
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2007
JUDICIAL REFORMS
Madhwaraj Smt. Manorama

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has chalked out any plan to implement judicial reforms in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds allocated for the purpose during each of the last three years;

(c) whether in terms of GNP the outlay on judiciary in India is less than those allocated in the developed countries such as USA, UK, Singapore etc.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE(SHR1 K.VENKATAPATHY)

(a) & (b): Judicial reforms being a continuous process has to keep pace with the changing times, conditions and requirements of the people. Government is committed to provide speedy and inexpensive justice to the common man. Various judicial reform measures are being implemented by the Government which . include the scheme of Fast Track Courts and Family Courts, simplification of judicial procedures, augmenting of judge strength in High Courts, training of judicial officers for improvement in the quality of administration of justice, accountability of judges, organizing Lok Adalats, setting up of special tribunals and encouraging alternative modes of dispute resolution.Government has also taken up schemes for application of Information and Communication Technology in the Indian courts through comprehensive computerization of District and Subordinate Courts of the country and for development of infrastructure facilities for the judiciary as part of implementation of judicial reforms in the country. The funds provided in the Budget Estimates in the last three years for all such Plan schemes is as indicated below:

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  (Rs.in crore)
2004-05 - 140.00
2005-06 -  220.00 d
2006-07 -  203.95
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(c)&(d): The First National Judicial Pay Commission also known as Shetty Commission had in its report presented on 11.11.1999 stated that the expenditure in our country in terms of GNP was relatively low. As per that report it was not more than 0.2% in our country whereas in the USA it was 1.4%, in the UK it was 4.3% and in Singapore it was 1.2%.